

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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62

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-05

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 /087 W

----- 070155

R 071600Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8706

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

UNCLAS KARACHI 0414

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EALR, ENRG, PK

SUBJECT: DRILLING OPERATIONS STARTED BY TWO

AMERICAN OIL EXPLORATION FIRMS ALONG

BALUCHISTAN COAST

1. I HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED BY MANAGING DIRECTOR
CHOUDHRY OF CONTINENTAL-WINTERSHALL (CW) THAT DRILL-
ING BARGE "WODCO NO. 3," OWNED BY WESTERN OFFSHORE
DRILLING COMPANY AND UNDER LEASE TO CW, ARRIVED AT
KARACHI HARBOR A FEW DAYS AGO FROM PREVIOUS DRILLING
SITE AT LAVAN ISLAND ON PERSIAN SIDE OF GULF. AFTER
TAKING ON SUPPLIES SHE WAS TOWED TO DRILL SITE ALONG
BALUCHISTAN COAST ABOUT FIFTY MILES WSW OF KARACHI
(SOME 25 MILES FROM LAST CW DRILL SITE). ON MARCH 4
"WODCO NO. 3" SPUDDED IN. OWING TO HER LATE ARRIVAL
AND IMMINENCE OF MONSOON SEASON, SHE WILL ONLY BE
ABLE TO COMPLETE PRESENT HOLE BEFORE ROUGH SEAS WILL
FORCE TERMINATION OF DRILLING FOR THIS SEASON. BARGE
WILL THEN GO BACK TO PERSIAN GULF FOR FURTHER DRILLING
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AND RETURN TO CW CONCESSION AREA AT END OF MONSOON

SEASON IN FALL OF 1975.

2. SAME DAY "WODCO NO. 3" SPUDDED IN, MARATHON
ALSO COMMENCED DRILLING OPERATIONS A FEW MILES IN-
LAND FROM BALUCHISTAN COAST NEAR PORT OF GWADAR.
MARATHON PLANNING DRILLING INAUGURATION CEREMONIES AND
ATTENDANT PUBLICITY AT LATER DATE WHEN DRILLING ROUTINE ESTABLISHED
AND APPROPRIATE HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS CAN BE INVITED TO GRACE
CEREMONIES.
BRYANT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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